



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 160

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

No. 131

Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord God almighty, ruler of all nature, thank You for not leaving us solely to our own resources. Continue to provide our lawmakers with the wisdom they need to accomplish Your purposes. Protect them and their loved ones from dangers seen and unseen, empowering them to run and not become weary. Lead them through these confused and troubled times to Your desired destination.

Today fill this Chamber with Your presence. May Your kingdom come and may Your will be done. Enable us all to live our lives in the spirit of unselfish service.

We pray in Your majestic Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

BANK ON STUDENTS EMERGENCY LOAN REFINANCING ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 409, S. 2432.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 409, S. 2432, a bill to amend the Higher Education

Act of 1965 to provide for the refinancing of certain Federal student loans, and for other purposes.

REMEMBERING THOMAS HALE BOGGS, JR.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I was saddened to learn just a few minutes ago of the passing of—I know the President pro tempore's friend and a friend to so many people in Washington—Tommy Boggs.

Tom Boggs was an institution in this city. I had the good fortune to hear about the Boggs family when I worked here as a policeman for a number of years and going to law school. Then for a short period I went to the post office, and it was there where his cousin Gabe worked. That is when I first started hearing about the Boggs family.

During that period of time Hale Boggs was the House whip, and, of course, he and Congressman Begich were in Alaska. He was campaigning for Congressman Begich when the plane went down, and after many decades the plane has never been recovered.

I also had the good fortune of serving with his mom in the House of Representatives. She was a sweet and very accomplished woman. She became the Ambassador to the Vatican. Then, of course, his sister Cokie Roberts is a famous journalist here.

Without belaboring the point, I extend my sympathy to the entire family, and I want them to know that our country and Washington, DC, in particular, is a much better place because of Tommy Boggs' passing through here.

SCHEDULE

Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 5:30 p.m. this afternoon, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

At 5:30 p.m. there will be three roll-call votes: cloture on S. 2199, the Paycheck Fairness Act and cloture on the Baran and Burns nominations to be members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The filing deadline for first-degree amendments to the Paycheck Fairness Act is 3 p.m., and the filing deadline for second-degree amendments is 4:30 p.m.

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

Mr. President, all one needs to do is pick up any newspaper or watch a television show or listen to the radio and you will know that we have many miles to travel before women in America are treated fairly.

Unfortunately, there are some in our Nation who don't see a problem. But when women continue to make less than men for performing the exact same work, it is clear we still have a problem. I see it, and the Senate Democrats see it. The Democrats in the Senate stand for women's equality because when women are empowered, we are all empowered.

Today, the Senate will vote on one important aspect of the unfair treatment of American women. Senator BARBARA MIKULSKI's Paycheck Fairness Act addresses the issue of gender-based discrimination.

In America today more than 50 years after passage of the Equal Pay Act, women who are doing the exact same work as a man make 77 cents for every dollar that a man makes. This is not just a woman's issue, it is a family issue and it is an economic issue.

For most Americans the answer is very simple. A woman who performs the same work as a man should be paid the same as that man. Women and men support equal pay for equal work regardless of gender because it is fair; that is, everyone except the Senate Republicans.

Senate Republicans simply cannot accept that simple notion that they should be paid the same for doing the exact same work. Senate Republicans believe it is fair for men to be paid more than women for doing the exact same thing. It is hard to comprehend, but that is obviously what they believe. On three separate occasions over the last 4 years, Senate Republicans

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S5573